come across any complaints of such nature. As and when such complaint(s) are brought to knowledge of the Government, appropriate action will be taken as per the provisions of the said Act.

Senior Citizens sick of Safdarjung OPD

1507. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Senior Citizens sick of Safdarjung OPD" which appeared in Delhi edition of The Statesman, dated the 31st January, 2002;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that senior citizens have to wait for longer period in various queues to get medical treatment;

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the said report; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to mitigate their hardships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Separate queues are provided for senior citizens for availing of the appropriate treatment. An Additional Medical Superintendent has been designated exclusively to look after the OPD and for the welfare of the senior citizens. Besides, one senior doctor and a staff nurse is posted in the OPD for smooth management.

Malaria-prone pockets in the country

1508. SHRI MAN MOHAL SAMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of malaria deaths are rampant in some parts of the country;

(b) whether Government have identified those pockets which are malaria prone;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;